

E₁
a denomination discriminating unit adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of denominations independently of the dimensions of the bills, said denomination discriminating unit [for] retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said denomination discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill; said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison which said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

E₂
B₃. (Three Times Amended) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said depth dimension being about 5 times the smaller cross-sectional dimension of the smallest dimensioned bill to be identified by said device;

said width dimension being about 2 times the larger cross-sectional dimension of the smallest dimensioned bill to be identified by said device;

a denomination discriminating unit adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of denominations independently of the dimensions of the bills, said denomination discriminating unit [for] retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of denominating; and

said denomination discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill; said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

B₄. (Three Times Amended) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said height dimension being about 10 inches;

a denomination discriminating unit adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of denominations independently of the dimensions of the bills, said denomination discriminating unit [for] retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

EN a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said denomination discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill; said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

178. (Three Times Amended) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

CB a housing;

an input bin mounted to said housing;

an output bin mounted to said housing;

a transport path for transporting bills through said housing from said input bin to said output bin;

a first roller having one portion extending into said input bin and another portion extending into said transport path;

a second roller located along said transport path and spaced apart from said first roller along said transport path by a distance less than the narrow dimension of a bill;

at least one stacker wheel having one portion extending into said transport path and another portion extending into said output bin, said stacker wheel being located along said transport path and spaced apart from said second roller along said transport path by a distance less than the narrow dimension of a bill;

a denomination discriminating unit adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of denominations independently of the dimensions of the bills, said denomination discriminating unit [for] retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

EM said denomination discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

26 31. (Three Times Amended) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

EA a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension;
a footprint of said device defined by the area obtained by multiplying said depth dimension by said width dimension being about 125 square inches;

a denomination discriminating unit in said housing adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of denominations independently of the dimensions of the bills, said denomination discriminating unit [for] retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory in said housing for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said denomination discriminating unit including signal processing means [in said housing] for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

29 36. (Three Times Amended) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

EN a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension;
the volume of said housing, defined by the product of said depth dimension and said height dimension and said width dimension being about 1,250 cubic inches;

a denomination discriminating unit in said housing adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of denominations independently of the dimensions of the bills, said denomination discriminating unit [for] retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory in said housing for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

En said denomination discriminating unit including signal processing means [in said housing] for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

33 ~~34~~. (Three Times Amended) A compact multiple currency identification system for identifying currency bills of different denominations of a plurality of currency systems comprising:

En a denomination discriminating unit adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of denominations independently of the dimensions of the bills, said denomination discriminating unit [for] retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; said memory storing master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill from each of at least two currency systems; and

said denomination discriminating unit including a signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information, wherein said system is relatively compact.

35 ~~36~~. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of U.S. currency bills of different denominations, comprising:

En a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said height dimension being about 4 times the smaller cross-sectional dimension of a U.S. bill;

a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine U.S. bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine U.S. bill; said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said U.S. bill based on said comparison which said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

36/37. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of U.S. currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said depth dimension being about 5 times the smaller cross-sectional dimension of a U.S. bill;

said width dimension being about 2 times the larger cross-sectional dimension of a U.S. bill;

61 a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine U.S. bill which the system is capable of denominating; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill; said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

37/38. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of U.S. currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said height dimension being about 10 inches;

a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine U.S. bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine U.S. bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

38
39 (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of U.S. currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing;

an input bin mounted to said housing;

an output bin mounted to said housing;

EN a transport path for transporting bills through said housing from said input bin to said output bin;

a first roller having one portion extending into said input bin and another portion extending into said transport path;

a second roller located along said transport path and spaced apart from said first roller along said transport path by a distance less than the narrow dimension of a U.S. bill;

at least one stacker wheel having one portion extending into said transport path and another portion extending into said output bin, said stacker wheel being located along said transport path and spaced apart from said second roller along said transport path by a distance less than the narrow dimension of a U.S. bill;

a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine U.S. bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine U.S. bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

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(New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of U.S. currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension;
a footprint of said device defined by the area obtained by multiplying said depth dimension by said width dimension being about 125 square inches;
a denomination discriminating unit in said housing for retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory in said housing for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine U.S. bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine U.S. bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

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41.

(New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of U.S. currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension;
the volume of said housing, defined by the product of said depth dimension and said height dimension and said width dimension being about 1,250 cubic inches;
a denomination discriminating unit in said housing for retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory in said housing for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine U.S. bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means in said housing for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine U.S. bill, said processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

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42.

(New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of U.S. currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said height dimension being about 4 times the smaller cross-sectional dimension of the smallest dimensioned bill to be identified by said device;

a denomination discriminating unit adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of U.S. denominations, and to retrieve characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill; said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison which said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

42/43. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of U.S. currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said depth dimension being about 5 times the smaller cross-sectional dimension of a U.S. bill to be identified by said device;

said width dimension being about 2 times the larger cross-sectional dimension of a U.S. bill to be identified by said device;

a denomination discriminating unit adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of U.S. denominations, and to retrieve characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of denominating; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill; said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

43
44. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of U.S. currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said height dimension being about 10 inches;

a denomination discriminating unit adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of U.S. denominations, and to retrieve characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

44
45. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of U.S. currency bills of different denominations comprising:

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a housing;

an input bin mounted to said housing;

an output bin mounted to said housing;

a transport path for transporting bills through said housing from said input bin to said output bin;

a first roller having one portion extending into said input bin and another portion extending into said transport path;

a second roller located along said transport path and spaced apart from said first roller along said transport path by a distance less than the narrow dimension of a U.S. bill;

at least one stacker wheel having one portion extending into said transport path and another portion extending into said output bin, said stacker wheel being located along said transport path and spaced apart from said second roller along said transport path by a distance less than the narrow dimension of a U.S. bill;

a denomination discriminating unit adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of U.S. denominations, and to retrieve characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

45
46. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of U.S. currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension;
a footprint of said device defined by the area obtained by multiplying said depth dimension by said width dimension being about 125 square inches;

a denomination discriminating unit in said housing adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of U.S. denominations, and to retrieve characteristic information from one or more bills;

En a memory in said housing for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

48
47. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of U.S. currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension;
the volume of said housing, defined by the product of said depth dimension and said height dimension and said width dimension being about 1,250 cubic inches;

a denomination discriminating unit in said housing for retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory in said housing for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of U.S. denominations, and comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

47
48. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said height dimension being about 4 times the smaller cross-sectional dimension of the smallest dimensioned bill to be identified by said device;

a denomination discriminating unit adapted to determine the denomination of each of a plurality of bills of a plurality of denominations, bills of at least two of the denominations having the same dimensions, and to retrieve characteristic information from one or more bills;

EN a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill; said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison which said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

48
49. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said depth dimension being about 5 times the smaller cross-sectional dimension of the smallest dimensioned bill to be identified by said device;

said width dimension being about 2 times the larger cross-sectional dimension of the smallest dimensioned bill to be identified by said device;

a denomination discriminating unit adapted to determine the denomination of each of a plurality of bills of a plurality of denominations, bills of at least two of the denominations having the same dimensions, and to retrieve characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of denominating; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill; said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

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50.

(New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said height dimension being about 10 inches;

EN a denomination discriminating unit adapted to determine the denomination of each of a plurality of bills of a plurality of denominations, bills of at least two of the denominations having the same dimensions, and to retrieve characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

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51.

(New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing;

an input bin mounted to said housing;

an output bin mounted to said housing;

a transport path for transporting bills through said housing from said input bin to said output bin;

a first roller having one portion extending into said input bin and another portion extending into said transport path;

a second roller located along said transport path and spaced apart from said first roller along said transport path by a distance less than the narrow dimension of a bill;

at least one stacker wheel having one portion extending into said transport path and another portion extending into said output bin, said stacker wheel being located along said transport path and spaced apart from said second roller along said transport path by a distance less than the narrow dimension of a bill;

a denomination discriminating unit adapted to determine the denomination of each of a plurality of bills of a plurality of denominations, bills of at least two of the denominations having the same dimensions, and to retrieve characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

51
52. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension;

a footprint of said device defined by the area obtained by multiplying said depth dimension by said width dimension being about 125 square inches;

a denomination discriminating unit in said housing adapted to determine the denomination of each of a plurality of bills of a plurality of denominations, bills of at least two of the denominations having the same dimensions, and to retrieve characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory in said housing for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

52
53. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension;
the volume of said housing, defined by the product of said depth dimension and said height dimension and said width dimension being about 1,250 cubic inches;
a denomination discriminating unit in said housing adapted to determine the denomination of each of a plurality of bills of a plurality of denominations, bills of at least two of the denominations having the same dimensions, and to retrieve characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory in said housing for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

EN
said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information.

53
54. (New) A compact multiple currency identification system for identifying currency bills of different denominations of a plurality of currency systems comprising:

a denomination discriminating unit adapted to determine the denomination of each of a plurality of bills of a plurality of denominations, bills of at least two of the denominations having the same dimensions and retrieving characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; said memory storing master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill from each of at least two currency systems; and

said discriminating unit including a signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information, wherein said system is relatively compact.

54
53. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said height dimension being about 4 times the smaller cross-sectional dimension of the smallest dimensioned bill to be identified by said device;

a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving characteristic pattern information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic pattern information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

EN said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic pattern information with master characteristic pattern information associated with at least one genuine bill; said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison which said retrieved characteristic pattern information sufficiently matches said master characteristic pattern information.

55
56. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said depth dimension being about 5 times the smaller cross-sectional dimension of the smallest dimensioned bill to be identified by said device;

said width dimension being about 2 times the larger cross-sectional dimension of the smallest dimensioned bill to be identified by said device;

a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving characteristic pattern information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic pattern information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of denominating; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic pattern information with master characteristic pattern information associated with at least one genuine bill; said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic pattern information sufficiently matches said master characteristic pattern information.

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~~57~~. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said height dimension being about 10 inches;

a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving characteristic pattern information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic pattern information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

EN
said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic pattern information with master characteristic pattern information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic pattern information sufficiently matches said master characteristic pattern information.

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~~58~~. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing;

an input bin mounted to said housing;

an output bin mounted to said housing;

a transport path for transporting bills through said housing from said input bin to said output bin;

a first roller having one portion extending into said input bin and another portion extending into said transport path;

a second roller located along said transport path and spaced apart from said first roller along said transport path by a distance less than the narrow dimension of a bill;

at least one stacker wheel having one portion extending into said transport path and another portion extending into said output bin, said stacker wheel being located along said transport path and spaced apart from said second roller along said transport path by a distance less than the narrow dimension of a bill;

a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving characteristic pattern information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic pattern information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic pattern information with master characteristic pattern information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic pattern information sufficiently matches said master characteristic pattern information.

58
58. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

EN
a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension;
a footprint of said device defined by the area obtained by multiplying said depth dimension by said width dimension being about 125 square inches;

a denomination discriminating unit in said housing for retrieving characteristic pattern information from one or more bills;

a memory in said housing for storing master characteristic pattern information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic pattern information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said comparison when said retrieved characteristic pattern information sufficiently matches said master characteristic pattern information.

59
60. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension;
the volume of said housing, defined by the product of said depth dimension and said height dimension and said width dimension being about 1,250 cubic inches;
a denomination discriminating unit in said housing for retrieving characteristic pattern information from one or more bills;
a memory in said housing for storing master characteristic pattern information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and
said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic pattern information with master characteristic pattern information associated with at least one genuine bill, said processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic pattern information sufficiently matches said master characteristic pattern information.

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61. (New) A compact multiple currency identification system for identifying currency bills of different denominations of a plurality of currency systems comprising:

a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving characteristic pattern information from one or more bills;

EN a memory for storing master characteristic pattern information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; said memory storing master characteristic pattern information associated with at least one genuine bill from each of at least two currency systems; and

signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic pattern information with master characteristic pattern information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic pattern information sufficiently matches said master characteristic pattern information, wherein said system is relatively compact.

61
62. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said height dimension being about 4 times the smaller cross-sectional dimension of the smallest dimensioned bill to be identified by said device;

a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving image characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master image characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved image characteristic information with master image characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill; said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison which said retrieved image characteristic information sufficiently matches said master image characteristic information.

62/ 63. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said depth dimension being about 5 times the smaller cross-sectional dimension of the smallest dimensioned bill to be identified by said device;

said width dimension being about 2 times the larger cross-sectional dimension of the smallest dimensioned bill to be identified by said device;

En a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving image characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master image characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of denominating; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved image characteristic information with master image characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill; said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved image characteristic information sufficiently matches said master image characteristic information.

64. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension within which said device is enclosed;

said height dimension being about 10 inches;

a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving image characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved image characteristic information with master image characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved image characteristic information sufficiently matches said master image characteristic information.

64/65 (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing;

an input bin mounted to said housing;

an output bin mounted to said housing;

a transport path for transporting bills through said housing from said input bin to said output bin;

a first roller having one portion extending into said input bin and another portion extending into said transport path;

EN a second roller located along said transport path and spaced apart from said first roller along said transport path by a distance less than the narrow dimension of a bill;

at least one stacker wheel having one portion extending into said transport path and another portion extending into said output bin, said stacker wheel being located along said transport path and spaced apart from said second roller along said transport path by a distance less than the narrow dimension of a bill;

a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving image characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory for storing master image characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved image characteristic information with master image characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the

denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved image characteristic information sufficiently matches said master image characteristic information.

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66. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension;
a footprint of said device defined by the area obtained by multiplying said depth dimension by said width dimension being about 125 square inches;
a denomination discriminating unit in said housing for retrieving image characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory in said housing for storing master image characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means in said housing for comparing said retrieved image characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said comparison when said retrieved image characteristic information sufficiently matches said master image characteristic information.

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67. (New) A compact currency evaluation device for identifying the denomination of currency bills of different denominations comprising:

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a housing having a depth dimension, a width dimension and a height dimension;
the volume of said housing, defined by the product of said depth dimension and said height dimension and said width dimension being about 1,250 cubic inches;

a denomination discriminating unit in said housing for retrieving image characteristic information from one or more bills;

a memory in said housing for storing master image characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; and

said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved image characteristic information with master image characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved image characteristic information sufficiently matches said master image characteristic information.

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68. (New) A compact multiple currency identification system for identifying currency bills of different denominations of a plurality of currency systems comprising:
a denomination discriminating unit for retrieving image characteristic information from one or more bills;
a memory for storing master image characteristic information associated with each genuine bill which the system is capable of identifying; said memory storing master image characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill from each of at least two currency systems; and
said discriminating unit including signal processing means for comparing said retrieved image characteristic information with master image characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved image characteristic information sufficiently matches said master image characteristic information, wherein said system is relatively compact.

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69. (New) A compact multiple currency identification system for identifying U.S. currency bills of different denominations of a plurality of currency systems comprising:
a discriminating unit adapted to denominate bills of a plurality of U.S. denominations, and to retrieve characteristic information from one or more bills;
a memory for storing master characteristic information associated with each genuine U.S. bill which the system is capable of identifying; said memory storing master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill from each of at least two currency systems; and
said discriminating unit including a signal processing means for comparing said retrieved characteristic information with master characteristic information associated with at least one genuine bill, said signal processing means generating an indication of the denomination of said bill based on said comparison when said retrieved characteristic information sufficiently matches said master characteristic information, wherein said system is relatively compact.

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